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2163016

EPA NO. *U890002*

FILE NO. *03-31*

DMSA 2163016

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Eric Johnson
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 8, 8ENF-T
999 18th Street, Suite 300
Denver, Colorado 80202-2466

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May 19, 2005

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ECEJ-TEP

RE: Progress report for April 2005 activities - Hecla Mining Company Apex Site (EPA ID No. UT982589848, Docket No. RCRA-8-99-06)

Dear Mr. Johnson:

Per paragraph 64 of the Order, enclosed is a copy of the April 2005 progress report for your records.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call me at (208) 769-4135 or e-mail at cgyp-ton@hecla-mining.com.

Sincerely,

Chris Gypton
Project Manager

Encl

Cc: John Galbavy, Esq. (HMC) (w/o attachments)
John Jacus, Esq. (DG&S)

U89848
03-31



May 19, 2005

MEMORANDUM TO: Paul Glader

COPIES TO: file, distribution

FROM: Chris Gypton

SUBJECT: **Progress Report No. 12 for period ending April 30, 2005;
Pond 2 Final Closure - Apex Site, Washington County, Utah**

Summary

The site continued to experience abnormal precipitation, particularly in the last half of the month. The monthly rainfall total at site was 2.2 inches; the long term average is estimated to be less than a third of that amount. Approximately 1.8 inches of rain fell in the last week of the month.

Site activities in the month focused on predominately on tailings dewatering and concurrently managing the seepage collection system. The seepage rate has continued to decline; pumping out the collection system ponds was done about every fourth day on average. The following table summarizes estimated volume of water removed through the dewatering system:

Time Period - 2005	Gallons in Period	Cumulative Gallons
Feb. 18 through Feb 28	28,650	28,650
March 1 through 31	103,415	132,065
April 1 through 30	93,350	225,415

Due to the rainfall in the last week of the month, installation and testing of the forced evaporation was delayed until early May.

The saturation level in the tailings is declining, however the continued abnormal precipitation is impeding progress. Pumping, evaporation, saturation level and rainfall data collected since February will be analyzed and the results included with the May progress report. Preliminary analysis indicates we may have to delay start of final cover construction until late July to early August to ensure the saturation level has been drawn down to approximately two feet below the elevation of the existing lining and evaporate off the recovered water.

Major Issues

1. None

Work Planned for Next Period

1. Continue management of the existing seepage collection system. Water collected in the system will be periodically pumped back to the impoundment and allowed to evaporate. The inventory of water in the seepage collection system will be kept to a practical minimum.
2. Continue dewatering of the tailings.
3. Set up and test forced evaporation system.

Work in Process

Procure Outside Services

1. The revised bid package for final cover construction was sent to Hughes GC on April 27th. Their proposal is due the last week in May.

Procure Materials

1. Purchase and fabrication of forced evaporation test system.

Contractor Submittals

1. No activity

Seepage Collection System Maintenance

1. Seepage collection system was maintained concurrently with the dewatering activity.

Phase II Drain/Evaporate Excess Water

1. Personnel were on site a total of twenty six days in the month. Approximately 93,000 gallons of water was pumped out of the dewatering sumps, and transferred to the evaporation basins.

Sampling and Analysis in Period

Material Characterization

1. No activity

Field Tests, Inspections & QA/QC

1. No activity

Cost and Schedule

Committed costs in April 2005 were approximately \$15,000. All of the expenditures were related to tailings dewatering and seepage collection system management. Total project to date committed is approximately \$484,000. Forecast cost at completion is now expected to be \$1,137,000. The \$23,000 increase over last month's forecast is due the addition of one month to the dewatering schedule.

The cost report for April is attached. Current status of the deliverables listed in the RCRA 7003 order is as follows:

Deliverable	Reference Paragraph	Due	Remarks
Post warning signage around perimeter of site	57	15 days after effective date of order	Work completed on March 9, 2004
Begin implementation of closure plan	63	45 days after receipt of filing of order	Work started on February 23, 2004
Monthly progress reports	64	28th day after close of month	Requirement in effect after order is filed.
Completion report	65	30 days after completion of all closure plan tasks	To be submitted within 30 days after work has been physically completed and all contracts closed out.

The update of the schedule milestones is on the following table:

Milestone	Target	Actual	Remarks
Issue bid package – Phase I (Sump Drains)	6/14/04	6/15/04	Portion of RFP materials issued at pre-bid on 6/14/04; remainder sent via courier
Issue RFP package – Phase III	6/24/04	6/24/04	
Award contract for Phase I	6/24/04	6/29/04	Date contract was shipped to Hughes
Pre-bid meeting – Phase III	7/19/04	7/19/04	
Start Phase I (Sump Drains) construction	7/12/04	7/19/04	
Start Phase II (Evaporation)	7/19/04	7/29/04	
Receive bids for Phase III	8/2/04	8/2/04	
Re-bid Phase III contract package	April 2005	4/27/05	Date bid package was sent to Hughes
Start Phase III construction	July 2005		Revised target based on dewatering progress
Complete Phase III construction	September 2005		Revised target based on late PH III start

Supplemental Attachments

1. None

Activity	2004 Budget	Revised Budget May 2004	Committed Cost this Period	Cumulative Committed Cost To Date 4-30-05	Forecasted Cost To Complete	Forecasted Final Cost	Remarks on Forecast to Complete
Phase I - Drain Excess Liquid From Tailings							
Test wick program - Nillex		35,000		35,000	0	35,000	
Earthwork during wick test program		2,000		1,768	0	1,768	
Install drainage piping and sumps:							
Contractor mobilization/demobilization		5,500		5,500	0	5,500	
Install sumps - material & labor		20,000		24,500	0	24,500	
Build surface evaporation ponds		2,700		838	0	838	
Remove existing evaporation ponds		2,000		0	0	0	Work moved to Phase III
Bury existing pond material & regrade		2,000		0	0	0	Work moved to Phase III
Survey monuments		3,500		1,160	500	1,660	One trip plus final report
Subtotal Phase I	189,200	72,700		68,766	500	69,266	
Phase II - Evaporate Excess Liquid							
Operate evaporation & pumping system		8,000		9,585		9,585	FY 2004 work only
Test pits to determine dewatering progress				1,320		1,320	
Upgrade evaporation cells & collection sumps				132,114		132,114	
Dewatering & seepage collection management			7,449	33,233	42,500	75,733	T&M labor + equipment; February '05 through July '05
Subtotal Phase II	6,000	6,000	7,449	176,252	42,500	218,752	
Phase III - Regrading & Final Cover System							
Contractor mobilization/demobilization		20,000		4,428	76,300	80,728	Includes allowance for cost escalation from FY 2004
Excavate existing embankment		15,000		0	46,000	46,000	
Final grading of 1% surface		2,500		0	56,000	56,000	
Place barrier layer (GCL) - top		200,000		0	150,000	150,000	
Place barrier layer (GCL) - outcrops		50,000		0	0	0	Incl w/ GCL cover cost
Excavate diversion channel		8,100		0	37,000	37,000	
Place 12" protection layer on top surface		19,000		0	45,000	45,000	
Reconstruct outside embankment		7,350		0	0	0	Incl w/ excavation of existing embankment
Finish grade 1% surface - top		3,000		0	0	0	Incl w/ 12" protection layer
Place surface layer at outcrops (D50 = 1")		4,800		0	0	0	Incl w/ 12" protection layer
Recontour diversion channel for drainage		2,000		0	0	0	Incl w/ diversion channel exc
Place diversion channel erosion protection (3" rock)		3,800		0	0	0	Incl w/ diversion channel exc
Surveying - diversion channel drainage		2,500		0	0	0	Incl w/ diversion channel exc
Remove existing evaporation ponds		0		0	34,200	34,200	
Clear site for construction		3,000		0	3,000	3,000	
Performance & Payment Bond		0		0	4,500	4,500	
Subtotal Phase III	337,000	342,050	0	4,428	452,000	456,428	
Field Indirect Costs							
Construction Management labor		108,360	3,620	148,651	76,500	225,151	
Construction Management field expenses		38,575	790	32,442	20,400	52,842	
Field office trailer		6,525	165	2,333	1,490	3,823	
CQA testing		9,200		0	17,100	17,100	
CQA completion report		5,000		0	5,000	5,000	
Survey and layout		2,208		0	2,200	2,200	
Material classification tests		1,500		5,762	2,500	8,262	
Consulting Engineer		42,200		31,699	15,850	47,549	
Subtotal Consultants	164,500	213,568	4,575	220,886	141,040	361,926	
Hecia Costs							
Labor	15,500	15,500	2,098	12,094	12,000	24,094	
Travel expenses	3,200	3,200	527	1,496	4,600	6,096	
Subtotal Hecia Costs	18,700	18,700	2,625	13,590	16,600	30,190	
Total Pond 2 Final Closure	715,400	655,018	14,649	483,919	652,640	1,136,559	

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May 19, 2005

Sent via U.S. Mail

Glenn Rogers, Chairman.
Shivwits Band of Paiute Indian Tribe
P.O. Box 448
Santa Clara, Utah 84765

COPY

John Krause
Bureau of Indian Affairs Phoenix Area Office
U.S. Department of Interior
P.O. Box 10
Phoenix, AZ 85001

Deborah Hamlin
BIA Southern Paiute Field Station, Branch of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 720
St. George, UT 84771

RE: Progress report for April 2005 activities - Hecla Mining Company Apex Site (EPA ID No. UT982589848, Docket No. RCRA-8-99-06)

Dear Chairman Rogers, Mr. Krause and Ms. Hamlin:

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If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call me at (208) 769-4135 or e-mail at cgyp-ton@hecla-mining.com.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chris Gypton", written over a horizontal line.

Chris Gypton
Project Manager

Encl

Cc: John Galbavy, Esq. (HMC) (w/o attachments)
John Jacus, Esq. (DG&S) (w/o attachments)
Eric Johnson (USEPA, Region VIII) (w/o attachments)